

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
Akihiro SATO et al. ) Atty. Docket: **ASAIN0130**  
Serial No. Unassigned ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: August 29, 2003 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
For: METHOD OF BUILD UP WELDING ) Date: August 29, 2003  
TO THIN-WALLED PORTION )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (A)**

**BOX: PATENT APPLICATION**  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application identified above  
as follows: